DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 255 909 CS 008 032

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TITLE Parents in Reading: Parents' Booklet.
INSTITUTION Northwest Regional Educational Lab., Portland, Oreg.
PUB DATE 79
NOTE 27p.; For the Spanish/English version of the Parents' Booklet and the Administrator's Guide, see ED 172 185 and ED 172 186, respectively.
PUB TYPE Guides - General (050)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Child Development; Childhood Attitudes; *Early Experience; *Family Environment; *Language Acquisition; *Parent Child Relationship; *Prereading Experience; Primary Education; Reading Readiness

ABSTRACT

Intended for parents, this booklet offers advice and suggestions for developing a child's self-expression and providing a supportive environment for reading experiences at home. Various sections of the book discuss the following: (1) giving love and warmth to your child, (2) reading with your child, (3) listening to your child, (4) talking with your child, (5) controllng television viewing at home, (6) using numbers with your child, (7) influencing good work habits at home, (8) teaching safety rules to your child, (9) your child's muscles and movement, (10) encouraging your child to imitate animals, (11) your child's creative development, (12) five developmental games you can play with your child, (13) helping to foster positive attitudes about school, (14) your child's independence, and (15) trips anyone can afford. A final section contains a checklist to measure how well the parent is doing. A selected booklist for children in preschool through sixth grade is also included. (HOD)

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PARENTS' BOOKLET

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DR. ROY TRUBY
Idaho State Superintendent
of Public Instruction
1974-1978

Published By:
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
Portland, Oregon

CS 008032

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to: Jerry Evans, Idaho State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Elisabeth Schlaefle, Idaho State Department of Education, and Doris R. Wright, Minidoka School District, for their original contribution to this effort. Also to: Dr. James Fenwick, Portland, Oregon; Ms. Dorothy Patrick, Gresham, Oregon, and Ms. Tillie Gerber, Vancouver, Washington, who provided invaluable assistance to the publisher and author.

Designed and illustrated by Susan Applegate and Warren Schlegel, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory.

This booklet is part of the *Parents in Reading* program which also includes an *Administrator's Guide* and the Spanish/English version of the *Parents' Booklet*.

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Giving Love And Warmth To Your Child

Children Need To Feel Love

Talk to your child from birth, softly, gently, and lovingly, but don't use baby talk. The child begins to learn the day he or she is born.

Oral expression is extremely important. At first the baby will respond by cooing and gurgling and later will pick up a few words and sense the rhythm of language.

The basic attitudes that make up your child's self image will develop out of what he or she learns from those who give love and affection. Of course, later these attitudes are shaped by a small world of friends, school and community, but most of all, they are an outgrowth of the home.

Love Helps Self-Confidence And Acceptance

If your child has self-confidence, he or she will be able to move ahead, explore new things, and attempt to solve everyday problems.

Self-respect grows from feeling loved and respected by others. Help your child gain self-respect.

Reading With Your Child

Show That You Like To Read
Children Learn By Example

Every time you read to your child you are building an appreciation of books and reading. A child who has been read to is usually more anxious to read. Reading becomes important.

Set up a scheduled reading time. Choose different kinds of books. Follow articles in the newspaper or comics; be a Charlie Brown fan.

Grandparents love children and are happy to become involved in reading with them.

Build A Home Library

Books make excellent Christmas or birthday gifts and are appropriate for any occasion. A child who owns books is usually interested in reading.

Read with your child in daily activities – menus, letters, shopping, traveling, etc.

Read road signs, information signs, survival signs as you travel and move about.

Praise and encouragement help to develop a good reading attitude, which is one step toward becoming a better reader. Get very excited and show that you are happy when your child brings a book home.

Listening To Your Child

Be A Good Listener

Children must have an opportunity to express themselves. Pay attention when your child is talking to you. Encourage your child to talk about things he or she has seen or done.

Teach Your Child From Birth To Use Good Language

Make dinner time special for good conversation. Instead of watching T.V. during dinner, talk with your children.

Rate Yourself As A Listener

When your child is talking to you, do you stop what you are doing and listen?

When your child is explaining something that happened, do you let your child finish without interrupting?

When you don't understand what your child is talking about, do you ask questions?

Do you ask your child to tell you what he or she wants instead of just pointing?

Do you let your child have a chance to tell things to the family at mealtime?

Talking With Your Child

Language development begins at birth. Infants learn to make their first sounds through imitation. Always speak to your child clearly, in complete sentences, without baby talk. Encourage and help your child to understand how to express himself or herself.

Talk About Differences

up and down
beside and between
left and right
over and under
before and after
big and little
large and small

Talk About Colors

"This is a red shirt."
"Go get your green mittens."
"Put on your blue jeans."

Story Telling

Tell a story together. Have the child give one idea and you give the next. Start a story and let your child finish it. Then, let him or her start one and you finish. Let your child guess what will happen next. Make up different endings for familiar stories. Have your child tell a story about pictures or ads. Use snapshots.

Records

Provide stories for listening, nursery rhymes to memorize, songs for singing, and opportunities for repetition.

Singing games may also help children develop the vocabulary and rhyming skills necessary for success in beginning reading.

Controlling Television Viewing At Home

Guide Your Child In T.V. Selection

Help select programs which give worthwhile information as well as entertainment.

Check newspaper listings for programs. Public television channels are often excellent for educational viewing.

Too Much Television Is Not Good For Adults Or Children

By monitoring and limiting the T.V. watching time, both children and parents can enjoy the results. Don't let T.V. become your babysitter and pacifier.

There are many programs which provide excellent learning experiences but *too much* T.V. can cause:

Casual attitudes toward sex and violence
Short attention span and short listening habits

T.V. can be beneficial if limited and used properly.

Using Numbers With Your Child

Help Your Child Learn The Sequence Of Numbers

You can use daily opportunities, such as, "How many spoons do we need at the table?" and "How many trucks do you see going to the store?"

Luncheon menus or grocery shopping provide excellent opportunities to help your child with math skills.

For example, give your child so much to spend for lunch and let him or her select within the amount.

Empty change from your pocket. Ask your child to count it. Ask your child to arrange it from largest to smallest.

Play games such as Scrabble or Monopoly. Watch them count when you land on Boardwalk!

Old calendars or playing cards teach your child the sequence of numbers.

Influencing Good Work Habits At Home

Praise Good Work

Set aside a regular time for homework. If possible give your child a definite place to work. Help him or her develop daily attention to homework routines.

Give your child regular work assignments such as: clearing the table, cleaning his or her room, sorting clean clothes.

Give your child responsibilities. Make sure that you ask your child to do something he or she is capable of doing. You can start with simple tasks and work up to more difficult ones. This allows your child to experience success.

Remember:
Success Builds Success

Here are a few small chores you can try with your child:

Putting away toys
Making own bed
Emptying wastebaskets
Sorting laundry
Setting the table
Washing and drying dishes

To help decide if a job you give your child is suitable you might ask yourself these questions:

Is it a job he or she can do well?
Will it take too much time?
Is your child getting praise and recognition for doing the job well?
Has your child had a part in choosing the job?
Is the job important to the family?

A pat or hug is often more valuable than words. Have you hugged your child often during reading?

Teaching Safety Rules To Your Child

Safety List:

To know about traffic lights and policemen
To use crosswalks
To use sidewalks whenever possible
To walk facing traffic if there are no sidewalks
Not to talk to or accept rides from strangers
To go directly home from school
To use good manners on the school bus

We Want Your Child To Be Safe And Healthy

Make sure your child is immunized. Check with your school or physician regarding immunization requirements.

A nutritious breakfast will get your child off to a good start each day in school. Plenty of sleep helps, too.

Does Your Child Know:

First and last name
Street address and phone number
Where to reach parents at parents' work places

Your Child's Muscles And Movements

Motor control is achieved by your child as he or she grows. Muscles develop at different times. Toys such as a large ball or jump rope or a hoop are excellent for developing muscle skills.

Let children respond to music and rhythm through body movement to develop self expression and individuality.

Large Motor Tasks

Can your child perform large motor tasks such as walking on a balance beam, catching, kicking or throwing a ball? If not, provide opportunities for:

Running, jumping, hopping
Ball rolling, bouncing, catching
Beanbag toss
Clapping and tapping to slow and fast rhythms
Imitation, "this is the way we rake the leaves"
Dressing up with old shoes, hats, dresses, pants, handbags and uniforms

Small Motor Tasks

Can your child perform small motor tasks such as tracing, folding paper, coloring, drawing? If not, provide opportunities for:

Drawing different designs – squares, triangles, circles

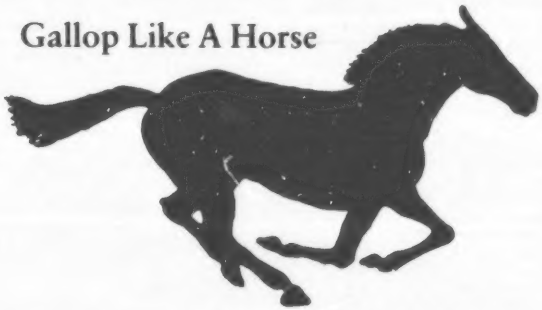
Stringing large beads, macaroni, snipped soda straws

Cutting pictures from old magazines

Folding paper hats from newspapers

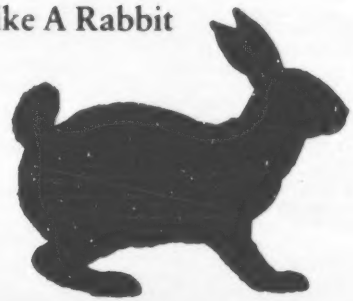
Encouraging Your Child To Imitate Animals

Gallop Like A Horse

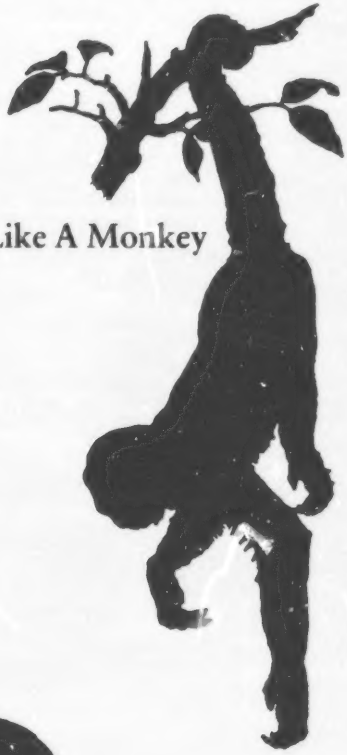


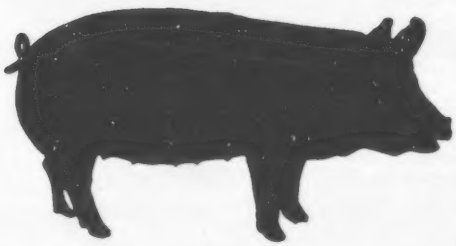
Fly Like A Bird

Hop Like A Rabbit



Swing Like A Monkey





Roll Like A Pig

Slither Like A Snake

Your Child's Creativc Development

A variety of art activities heips children develop smali hand muscles and gives them a chance to exercise creativity.

Your children will enjoy art media such as:

Scissors and paste
Wallpaper (free samples from paint stores)
Large crayons
Large brushes
Tempera paints
Play-clay
Finger Paints

Old shirts may be used as smocks.

A place is needed for your child to keep his or her treasures. This could be a special bulletin board, treasure box or shelves in the corner of a room.

Perhaps that special picture could be displayed on the front of the refrigerator.

Finger Paint Recipe

1 cup liquid starch
3 cups soap flakes
1 cup cold water
Powdered tempera paint (use enough for desired color)

Mix all ingredients together with an electric mixer. The mixture will be rather stiff. Divide into several bowls and add a different color to each bowl. Since it is made from soap flakes, it will wash out easily.

Play-clay Recipe

1/2 cup salt
1 tablespoon salad oil
2 tablespoons alum (a preservative available at grocery stores)
2½ or 3 cups flour
1½ cups boiling water
Food coloring (optional)

Mix salt, oil and alum. Over this, pour boiling water mixed with food coloring. Stir well until salt is nearly dissolved. Add flour. Mix and knead until smooth.

Five Developmental Games You Can Play With Your Child

Young children learn most effectively through play. There are many games and activities you and your child can have fun doing together.

Self Portrait

Place a large piece of paper on the floor (brown wrapping paper is good) and have your child lie down on the paper. Then trace the outline of the child's body with a crayon or magic marker. Let your child color the portrait. When the child is finished, help cut it out, and hang it up for everyone to see.

Make A Family Tree

To help your child understand the idea of *family* and to learn more about just who makes up his or her own particular family, gather as many photos of family members as you can. Draw a big tree, with your child as the focal point. On the extending branches paste the photos of brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, grandparents, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Make A Picture Map Of Your Neighborhood

Help your child draw a picture map of the neighborhood in which you live. First take a walk together and let the child decide on the things he or she wants on the map: the houses where friends live, the playground, the post office, the library, the mailbox, a favorite tree, and so on. When you get home, spread a large piece of paper on the floor and help your child mark out where each thing will go.

Make A Diary

Help your child keep a diary. After a birthday party or any special event or trip, set some time aside with your child to record what happened. Write the event and date it happened on the page and then ask your child: "What do you want to say about the party (trip)?" "What part was the most fun?" "Why did you like it best?" Write down whatever your child dictates. Illustrate the page with drawings, photos, or pictures cut from magazines.

Mail

Receiving mail is a special thrill for preschoolers because adults get all the mail. Take advantage of the coupons you find in magazines, on the backs of cereal boxes, or in the newspapers. Help your child fill in name and address, stick on the stamps, and put the envelope in the mailbox.

Helping To Foster Positive Attitudes About School

Show A Real Interest In School

The parents' attitudes are usually the child's.

Help your child develop an interest and curiosity for learning.

Take time to listen and ask questions.

Talk about the work your child brings home.

Look at the books and papers your child brings home and use them as conversation springboards.

Get Involved In Your Child's World

Visit your child's teacher at least four times a year. Find out about the Parent-Teacher Association. If the school doesn't have one, find out why not.

Don't be critical of teachers in your child's presence. This only undermines faith in the teacher and creates a negative attitude toward school.

Check your child's report card and daily progress in school. If your child is having trouble with reading or other subjects, consult the teacher to find out why and how you can help.

Your Child's Independence

Accept your child as he or she is. Every child is different. All children learn different skills at different times and mature at different rates. Each child grows through his or her own experience.

A child needs to feel independent, worthy and self-reliant. To develop these qualities, give him or her small tasks and responsibilities at an early age.

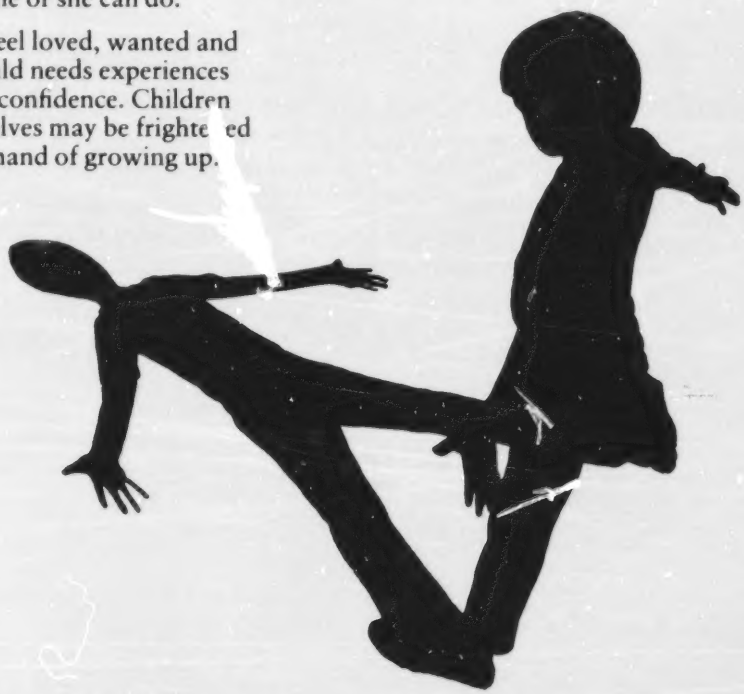
You Can Help Your Child Learn To:

button own coat
zip own zipper
tie own shoes
put away toys
hang up clothes

Remember Your Child Is An Individual

Try to avoid comparing your child with brothers and sisters and other children. Children differ in their abilities. You can expect your child's best effort but don't expect more than he or she can do.

Children need to feel loved, wanted and accepted. Your child needs experiences which bolster self-confidence. Children who doubt themselves may be frightened of meeting the demand of growing up.



Trips Anyone Can Afford
Adventure Can Be Just Around The Corner

Here are a few suggestions for trips you can make with your child:

The Library

Look at all those books!
Talk to the librarian and ask for a description of the job.
Pick out a book together (use the list in the back of this book).

Construction Site

Go often to see what progress has been made.
See how many different machines are used.
Watch one worker at a time and try to guess what the job is.

The Post Office

Take a self-addressed letter and find out what happens when you mail it.
Look for it in your mailbox the next day.

The Zoo Or The Pet Shop

Go at feeding time, if possible.
Find out what different animals and birds eat.
Watch the different ways they eat.

The Florist

Watch the florist make floral arrangements.
How many different flowers can you see?
Smell the flowers.
Take a flower home.

Firehouse

Observe the tools used to put out fires.
See the fire engines.
Find out how firefighters know where the fires are.
Ask what each firefighter does at the fire.

Summary

You are your child's first teacher. Your child's other teachers will appreciate and benefit from how well you've done and by how much you have covered. You can make *our* job easier. When you help your child feel wanted and loved, you are encouraging self-reliance. When you talk to your child from birth, softly, gently and lovingly, you are helping your child develop self-expression.

When you read to your child, you are helping to get your child ready for a successful school experience. Reading also helps to build a background of experience which helps your child take advantage of daily learning situations.

You can help your child learn to follow directions and listen attentively. Remember, there is no substitute for praise and encouragement.

You, the parents, are the foundation of our school system. We want to please you. We need your help to be really successful.

How Well Are You Doing?

Check Yourself	Often	Seldom
I am taking time to have fun with my child	_____	_____
I am encouraging my child to feel good about himself or herself	_____	_____
I am taking time to listen to and talk with my child	_____	_____
I am taking time to explain new words to my child	_____	_____
I am taking time to read to my child	_____	_____
I am taking time to supply my child with books	_____	_____
I am encouraging my child to share when playing with other children	_____	_____
I am encouraging my child to learn to read	_____	_____
I take time to play games with my child	_____	_____
I am telling my child that I love him or her through words and actions	_____	_____

Remember . . .

Children grow as they live, so give your child

love
encouragement
confidence
praise
fairness
tolerance
security
acceptance

and your child will grow accordingly.

Suggested Books For Toddlers (Pre-Schoolers)

We Never Get to Do Anything ..... Martha Alexander
Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing ..... Judith Barrett
B Book ..... Stanley and Janice Berenstain
Bears on Wheels ..... Stanley and Janice Berenstain
The Important Book ..... Margaret W. Brown
*Do You Want to Be My Friend? ..... Eric Carle
One, Two, Three to the Zoo ..... Eric Carle
The Very Hungry Caterpillar ..... Eric Carle
A Baby Bunny for You ..... Walter Chandoha
Under the Green Willow ..... Elizabeth Coatsworth
Ten Black Dots ..... Donald Crews
Andy: That's My Name ..... T. De Paola
May I Bring a Friend? ..... Beatrice S. DeRegniers
Green Says Go ..... Ed Emberley
Gilberto and the Wind ..... Marie H. Ets
Tigers in the Cellar ..... Carol Fenner
Chicken Little, Count-To-Ten ..... Margaret Friskey
Three Sides and the Round One ..... Margaret Friskey
Look! ..... Zhenya Gay
Is it Hard? Is it Easy? ..... Mary M. Green
*The Lazy Dog ..... John Hamberger
A Bargain for Frances ..... Russell Hoban
Be Nice to Josephine ..... Betty F. Horvath
Rosie's Walk ..... Pat Hutchins
Edie Changes Her Mind ..... Johanna Johnston
Are You Square? ..... Ethel Kessler
Do Baby Bears Sit in Chairs? ..... Ethel and Leonard Kessler
Everything Has a Shape and Everything Has a Size ..... Bernice Kohn
Frog Went a-Courtin' ..... John Langstaff and Feodor Rojankovsky
Inch by Inch ..... Leo Lionni
Little Blue and Little Yellow ..... Leo Lionni
Swimmy ..... Leo Lionni
I Can. Can You? ..... Ada Litchfield
Make Way for Ducklings ..... Robert McCloskey
*Frog Goes to Dinner ..... Mercer Mayer
*There's a Nightmare in My Closet ..... Mercer Mayer
A House for Everyone ..... Betty Miles
The Box with Red Wheels ..... Maud and Miska Petersham
The Tale of Peter Rabbit ..... Beatrix Potter
Blue Bug and the Bullies ..... Virginia Poulet

* Wordless Picture Books

Curious George ..... H. A. Rey
Squares Are Not Bad ..... Violet Salazar
Big Lion, Little Lion ..... Miriam Schlein
Sam ..... N. H. Scott
Feeling Blue ..... Robert J. Wolff
The Giant Nursery Book of Things That Go ..... George Zaffo
The Quarreling Book ..... Charlotte Zolotow

Suggested Books For Beginning Readers Through First Grade Level

The Pig War ..... Betty Baker
Sam the Minuteman ..... Nathaniel Benchley
Strange Disappearance of Arthur Cluck ..... Nathaniel Benchley
Bike Lesson ..... Stanley and Janice Berenstain
C Is for Clown ..... Stanley Berenstain
Inside, Outside, Upside Down ..... Stanley Berenstain
Big Bug, Little Bug ..... Jean Berg
I'm Bored, Ma! ..... Harold Berson
And I Mean It, Stanley ..... Crosby Bonsall
Mine's the Best ..... Crosby Bonsall
Go, Dog, Go ..... Philip D. Eastman
Just Follow Me ..... Philip D. Eastman
That New River Train ..... Lucy Hawkinson
Circus Fun ..... Margaret Hillert
The Funny Baby ..... Margaret Hillert
Little Puff ..... Margaret Hillert
Little Runaway ..... Margaret Hillert
Mr. Pig and Sonny Too ..... Lillian Hoban
Bargain for Frances ..... Russell Hoban
Count and See ..... Tana Hoban
Titch ..... Pat Hutchins
Hello, Small Sparrow ..... Hannah Johnson
Jack Kent's Hop, Skip and Jump Book ..... Jack Kent
Mouse Tales ..... Arnold Lobel
What Have I Got ..... Mike McClintock
Oh No Go ..... David McPhail
Cat and Dog ..... Else H. Minarik
Big Red Hen ..... Mary O'Neill
Granny, the Baby, and the Big Gray Thing ..... Peggy Parish

The Tiger Book ..... Jan Pfloog
Blue Bug and the Bullies ..... Virginia Poulet
Blue Bug Finds a Friend ..... Virginia Poulet
Blue Bug to the Rescue ..... Virginia Poulet
Blue Bug's Beach Party ..... Virginia Poulet
A Bear, a Bobcat and Three Ghosts ..... Ann Rockwell
I Did It ..... Harlow Rockwell
Jenny and the Tennis Nut ..... Janet Schulman
Nate the Great and the Phony Clue ..... Marjorie W. Sharmat
How do I Feel ..... Norma Simon
The Littlest Skunk ..... Theresa Smith
Frog Fun ..... Clara Stratemeyer
Is Susan Here? ..... Janice M. Udry
One, Two, Where's My Shoe ..... Tomi Ungerer
What Is One? ..... Nancy D. Watson
Some Frogs Have Their Own Rocks ..... Robert Wiest
The Princess and Froggie ..... Harve and Kaethe Zemach
Harry and the Lady Next Door ..... Gene Zion
Janey ..... Charlotte Zolotow

Suggested Books For Second And Third Grade Levels

Spooky Tricks ..... Gerald Ames and Rose Wyler
Brown Mouse and Vole ..... Vicki K. Artis
Wiley and the Hairy Man ..... Molly Bang
Piggle ..... Crosby Bonsall
The Friendly Book ..... Margaret W. Brown
Football Players Do Amazing Things ..... Mel Cebulash
Bennett Cerf's Book of Animal Riddles ..... Bennett A. Cerf
When Will I Read? ..... Miriam Cohen
Frances Face-Maker ..... William Cole
Mrs. Piggery Snout ..... Rosamond Dauer
Flip and the Cows ..... Wesley Dennis
Twirly Skirt ..... Martha Goldberg
Lewis and Clark ..... Matthew G. Grant
Little Owl, Keeper of the Trees ..... Ronald and Ann Himler
Odd Jobs ..... Tony Johnston
Fiona's Bee ..... Beverly Keller
Simon's Soup ..... Beverly Komoda
Any Me I Want to Be ..... Karla Kuskin

All About Birds ..... Robert Stell Lemmon
The Homework Caper ..... Joan Lexau
Frog and Toad Together ..... Arnold Lobel
Tiger Stripes and Zebra Stripes ..... Julian May
Adventures with a Cardboard Tube ..... Harry Milgrom
The Drinking Gourd ..... F. N. Monjo
Sea Horse ..... Robert Morris
Granny and the Indians ..... Peggy Parish
Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia ..... Peggy Parish
Buford, the Little Bighorn ..... Bill Peet
Farewell to Shady Glade ..... Bill Peet
The House that Jack Built ..... Rodney Peppe
Big Max ..... Kin Platt
Pete Pack Rat ..... Robert Quackenbush
The Gollywhopper Egg ..... Ann Rockwell
The Story Snail ..... Ann Rockwell
More Potatoes! ..... Millicent E. Selsam
The Sign on Rosie's Door ..... Maurice Sendak
Nate the Great ..... Marjorie W. Sharmat
Clever Kate ..... Elizabeth Shub
Walk Home Tired Billy Jenkins ..... Ianthe Thomas
Wake Up, City ..... Alvin R. Tresselt
Glenda ..... Janice Udry
Here is Henri! ..... Edith Vacheron
Dodo Every Day ..... Ilse-Margret Vogel
Patch, a Baby Mink ..... Virginia Voight
Tom Thumb ..... William Wiesner
Morris and Boris ..... Bernard Wiseman
So You Shouldn't Waste a Rhinoceros ..... Nathan Zimelman
The New Friend ..... Charlotte Zolotow
William's Doll ..... Charlotte Zolotow

Suggested Books For Older Children (Third Grade Through Sixth)

Little Women ..... Louisa M. Alcott
The Black Cauldron ..... Lloyd Alexander
Book of Three ..... Lloyd Alexander
Mr. Popper's Penguins ..... Richard and Florence Atwater
Peter Pan ..... James M. Barrie

The Wizard of Oz ..... Frank L. Baum
Are You There God, It's Me Margaret ..... Judy Blume
It's Not the End of the World ..... Judy Blume
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing ..... Judy Blume
Paddington Books ..... Michael Bond
The Mouse and the Motorcycle ..... Beverly Cleary
Ramona the Pest ..... Beverly Cleary
The Dark Is Rising ..... Susan Cooper
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory ..... Roald Dahl
Danny: The Champion of the World ..... Roald Dahl
James and the Giant Peach ..... Roald Dahl
Hardy Boys Mysteries ..... Franklin W. Dixon
Black Stallion ..... Walter Farley
The Great Brain ..... John D. Fitzgerald
Harriet the Spy ..... Louise Fitzhugh
The Ghost on Saturday Night ..... Sid Fleischman
Cheaper by the Dozen ..... Frank Gilbreth
The Wind in the Willows ..... Kenneth Grahame
Smoky ..... Will James
Nancy Drew Mysteries ..... Carolyn Keene
Just So Stories ..... Rudyard Kipling
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler ..... E. L. Konigsburg
Rabbit Hill ..... Robert Lawson
A Wrinkle in Time ..... Madeleine L'Engle
Strawberry Girl ..... Lois Lensky
The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe ..... C. S. Lewis
When We Were Very Young ..... A. A. Milne
Ann of Green Gables ..... L. M. Montgomery
The Windows of Forever ..... John Morressy
Marshmallow ..... Clare T. Newberry
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh ..... Robert C. O'Brien
Oxford Book of Children's Verse ..... Iona and Peter Opie
We Took to the Woods ..... Louise Rich
Mike's House ..... Julia L. Sauer
Two Little Savages ..... Ernest T. Seton
Black Beauty ..... Anna Sewell
Caps for Sale ..... Esphyr Slobodkina
Thirteen Clocks ..... James Thurber
Mary Poppins ..... Pamela Travers
Tom Sawyer ..... Mark Twain
Charlotte's Web ..... E. B. White
Herbert ..... Hazel Wilson